

REMARKS

The Official Action of 16 November 2006 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

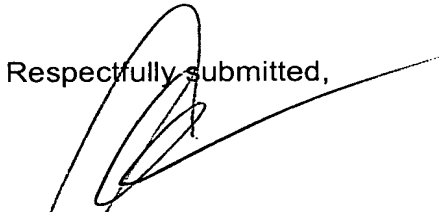
The Examiner has maintained the prior art rejections at paragraphs 3-8 of the Official Action with an explanation in the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5 of the Official Action that the recitation "and/or" in claim 1 (penultimate paragraph) causes the claim to read on three different embodiments: (i) a repeating structural unit derived from a cationically polymerizable surface active agent and a repeating structural unit derived from an anionically polymerizable surface active agent **or** (ii) a repeating structural unit derived from a cationically polymerizable surface active agent, a repeating structural unit derived from an anionically polymerizable surface active agent, and a hydrophilic monomer having anionic group **or** (iii) a repeating structural unit derived from a cationically polymerizable surface active agent and hydrophilic monomer having anionic group.

The Examiner acknowledges that the cited art does not disclose embodiments (i) and (ii). See Official Action at page 4, third paragraph ("It is agreed that there is no disclosure in Hayashi et al, WO 2001/96483, Vincent et al, or Mishina et al of pigment coated with both cationically polymerizable surface active agent and anionically polymerizable surface active agent."). She nevertheless contends that the cited art discloses embodiment (iii).

Applicant has now amended claim 1 to require **both** a repeating structural unit derived from a cationically polymerizable surface active agent and a repeating structural unit derived from an anionically polymerizable surface active agent (as in embodiments (i) and (ii)). This amendment is respectfully considered simply to narrow the embodiments that the Examiner has already considered such that it does not raise a new issue. This amendment is also respectfully considered to remove the basis for the prior art rejections in accordance with the Examiner's comments. See, also, the discussion in Applicant's Amendment filed 18 August 2006 at pages 11-13, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the prior art rejections of record have been overcome and that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,



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